

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 01203 021220Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 IO-13 /092 W  
-----004264 030406Z /64

R 021215Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3321  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 01203

E. O. 11652: XGDS-SS-1  
TABS: PEPR, SP, XI  
SUBJECT: SPANISH-ALGERIAN RELATIONS

REF: MADRID 01147

1. IN CALL (FEB.1) ON MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL (EQUIVALENT TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY) FOR AFRICA AND CONTINENTAL ASIA PEDRO LOPEZ AGUIRBENGOA ON OTHER MATTER (SEPTTEL), WE RAISED WITH HIM CURRENT STATUS OF SPANISH-ALGERIAN RELATIONS. AGUIRBENGOA CONFIRMED THAT CUBILLO HAS BEEN OFF THE AIR FOR A WEEK AND STATED THAT GOS REGARDS THIS AS A FORWARD STEP. ALTHOUGH THE SILENCING OF CUBILLO WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT UNCONNECTED WITH VISIT TO ALGERIA BY PSOE LEADER FELIPE GONZALEZ, GOS WAS NOT CERTAIN THAT GONZALEZ DESERVED ALL THE CREDIT FOR MOTIVATING THIS ALGERIAN MOVE. AGUIRBENGOA NOTED IN THIS REGARD THAT SPANISH HAD SENT MESSAGES TO THE ALGERIANS THROUGH OTHER ARAB GOVERNMENTS INCLUDING THE IRAQIS AND THE SYRIANS.  
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IT WAS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT SPANISH MESSAGE TO THE LIBYANS, AS CONVEYED BY KING'S FATHER, DON JUAN, MAY HAVE HAD SOME EFFECT IN ALGIERS. FURTHER DIALOGUE WAS NOW IN ORDER, HE CONTINUED, BUT IT WAS NOT CLEAR AS TO WHAT FORM THIS WOULD TAKE OR WHERE SUCH DIALOGUE WOULD OCCUR. NOR WAS IT YET DECIDED WHETHER SPANISH AMBASSADOR WOULD SOON BE RETURNING TO ALGIERS.

2. IN COMMENTING ON SOCIALIST POLICY TOWARD NORTH AFRICA, AGUIRREBENGOA SAID THAT VIEWS ADOPTED BY THE PSOE WERE A LUXURY THAT PARTY COULD ONLY AFFORD AS LONG AS IT WAS IN OPPOSITION. HOWEVER, IF THE PSOE CAME TO POWER AND THEN HAD TO DEAL WITH SPANISH RELATIONS WITH NORTH AFRICA IN A REALISTIC WAY, THE LEADERS OF THAT PARTY WOULD SOON REALIZE THAT SPAIN DOES NOT HAVE MUCH MARGIN FOR MOVEMENT AND THAT THE POLICY OPTIONS OPEN TO MADRID ARE NOT REALLY VERY BROAD. STABLER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PROPAGANDA, FOREIGN RELATIONS, RADIO BROADCASTING, POLITICAL PARTIES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
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